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Official Diary

Tuesday, 3 March 1953

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25X1A9a1. Suggested to Colonel Edwards that he might want to brief [redacted] as to the possibility that drugs might be used against NSC members. [redacted] undertook to do so.

2. Reported to the Director the status of the briefing on Iran and also reported on my talk with General Smith. At 5:30 PM we held a dry-run of this briefing.

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3. Requested [redacted] to have a round-up prepared as to the activities of the Yemen government which has been pressing for additional relations with Soviet bloc countries.

4. Reported to DCI on my undertaking to brief Budget on the allocation of overt intelligence research responsibilities.

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5. After raising the point with the Director, spoke with Dr. Chadwell as to the response we should make to [redacted] letter to the Director. This letter requested, on behalf of Federal Civil Defense, the "particulars" on which our criticism of the AE and BW portions of the East River report were made. It was clearly understood that no "particulars" could be given to this Agency, although there was a question of whether or not we would give them our intelligence conclusions on these points. Dr. Chadwell undertook to ascertain whether or not sufficient intelligence had been disseminated to them to enable them, without more, to reduce their estimate of Soviet capabilities. If such dissemination had not been made, we would have to consult as to the best procedure. Later received a message from Dr. Chadwell that this could be settled verbally, but I still desire a draft answer to the [redacted] letter and an elucidation of what will be said to whom. There is a similar problem with respect to NSRB, although, on the basis of reports that NSRB is to be dissolved, we should not act on this until this question is decided.

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6. In view of a conflicting engagement, asked Colonel White to postpone meeting of the career service board because Mr. Amory and I felt that one of us should attend.

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7. There was discussion at the morning meeting as to the actual situation in Burma with respect to Nationalist and/or Communist troop elements. This discussion was based in part upon State cable #893 of 27 February from Taipei [redacted] Mr. Wisner and myself are to discuss this matter on Wednesday with [redacted] of State, and I requested Mr. Sheldon and [redacted] to have a round-up of the evidence prepared.

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8. At the morning meeting, recommended against any discussion with [redacted] who is visiting the Far East, but DCI determined that someone should talk with [redacted] I undertook to do so.

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Security Information

Official Diary
3 March 1953

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9. There was a reference at the morning meeting to certain irritation on the part of an alleged banker with respect to inquiries from

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On the basis of information later received from [REDACTED] I judged that this was not attributable to any error on the part of [REDACTED] I did speak to Mr. Carey, however, to press the suggestion that I had made earlier of having a panel of high level consultants who would be available to interview outstanding figures in the financial and business world. Both the Director and myself felt that this could not be handled in a routine manner. Mr. Carey undertook to follow through on this. I suggested that he look over the list of O/RR consultants.

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10. At the morning meeting, the Director reported that he had arranged for a meeting of selected members of the Joint AE Committee and requested that an appropriate briefing be prepared. I alerted Dr. Chadwell and suggested that he and [REDACTED] accompany the Director in accordance with prior practice. [REDACTED] later informed me that this briefing would be held on Thursday or Friday and I requested that he alert Chadwell.

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11. Ascertained from the Director that he could have luncheon with [REDACTED] et al on Tuesday week, and I alerted Mr. Sheldon who had delivered the invitation to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] phoned and recommended that we pass to [REDACTED] the paper on unidentified flying objects. I ascertained that it was already planned to send this to [REDACTED] and others, including [REDACTED] the delay in actually passing the paper had been to await IAC approval.

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12. Dr. Kent phoned me respecting the retaining of [REDACTED] as a CIA consultant. I said that I thought this could be arranged but I would have to consult my diary, since there had been some discussion with General Smith on this point. Upon referring to my diary entries I decided that this would have to be decided by DCI. Dr. Kent also consulted me on a possible extension of [REDACTED] trip so as to get local views as to the impact of the Turkish-Greek-Yugoslav pact, and I agreed that this would be in order.

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13. Chatted with [REDACTED] brought in a [REDACTED] on a portion of Indo-China and indicated that [REDACTED] was most anxious to prepare similar papers but desired financial support from CIA. Since these studies were based on much more current information than anything available to us, and were in more detail than our own studies, I indicated to [REDACTED] that I would approve a project for some reasonable sum for this purpose. I felt that he should ascertain the nature of the support that [REDACTED] desired and then pass such information to me, and he undertook to do so. Also requested that [REDACTED] speak to [REDACTED] and others in O/CI. [REDACTED] informed me that [REDACTED] in FE was the best point of contact with him. Also reviewed with [REDACTED] the status of our discussions on the tri-partite meetings on Southeast Asia.

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Security Information

Security Information

Official Diary
3 March 1953

14. General Eberly phoned and requested that DCI address the National War College and the Industrial College on "The Role of CIA in National Security" on 26 May at 9:00 AM. I indicated that he could assume acceptance if he did not hear from me within 24 hours. Later [REDACTED] ascertained that the DCI would meet this date.

FS-
See HLE
on [REDACTED]
done

15. Attended special IAC meeting. After the meeting, Armstrong mentioned again the possibility that State would re-transfer to CIA its portion of the NIS program. I indicated willingness to discuss ways and means of doing this and Mr. Armstrong undertook to phone me after he had clarified some points with [REDACTED]

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16. [REDACTED] phoned to state that he would be in Washington next week seeing various people, including [REDACTED] on the facilities available [REDACTED]. He desired at least an hour with me to discuss relations with [REDACTED]

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17. Chatted with [REDACTED] with respect to mutual relations. [REDACTED] was inclined to be agreeable to Mr. Dulles' suggestion that we have a [REDACTED] I suggested, in view of the amount of the relative volume of contact with [REDACTED]

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fact that they had sent us several appreciations, none of which I have seen. I am asking [REDACTED] to collect these for me. They were addressed to IAC. I suggested to [REDACTED] that in the future such items be addressed to our attention. I also explained to [REDACTED] why it was difficult for us to comment on [REDACTED] in view of the different nature of the U.S.

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18. Attended briefing of [REDACTED]

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19. Late in the evening, about 1:00 AM (Wednesday), received word from [REDACTED] and then from FBIS respecting Stalin's stroke. Informed Messrs. Dulles and Wisner and arranged for a briefing of Mr. Dulles on Wednesday morning.

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